

HAVE you done your Christmas shopping?

We all can find something to be thankful for.

If you have been blessed in this world's goods, don't forget your neighbor who may have been overtaken by sorrow or misfortune.

TODAY is the anniversary of Thanksgiving day. How many of us will heartily and sincerely thank our Great Creator for the blessings we have enjoyed during the last year?

Congress convenes the first of the week, and what is now going on in Europe and another in Asia—the big city dailies will have no lack of material for "careers."

Russia and China are stirring up a scrap now over Mongolia. Did you ever see two dogs trying to grab the same bone? Well, that's just what the row looks like.

Abusing The Pardoning Power.

We do not feel that we are especially hard-hearted, but we hope that when Elliott Major gets in the Governor's chair a few manufacturers will be allowed to prove that results in these meetings. To abuse the pardoning power would certainly cease.—*Chicago Tribune*.

Is making up the list of presents for your relatives and friends away from home, don't forget the Press. You could scarcely think of anything that would be more satisfactory than a year's subscription to your home paper, which would be more than a letter, telling them all about what is going 'till the community and among the people that are nearest to or affect us each week.

Our young friend, F. J. Farmer, now living at Roswell, New Mexico, sends us the following, which is taken from the San Antonio, Texas, Express, says the *Ironclad Register*: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, bring forth the cock and let them crow; the party banner raise on high, let their plats reach to the sky; let horns be tooted, bells ring out, let trumpets blow, let people shout; let everybody dance with glee confetti, let us scatter free, Democracy, O, bless the day—the one for which we oft did pray—has won, and now the jobs are ours. Henceforth we'll dwell in fairest bowerish customs, cause we will hold sway, well-sell the stamps and draw the pay, get what, and there some fun in this." It surely is a time of bliss."

It makes us shudder to think of the heinous crimes that are being committed in this age of our boasted Christian civilization, and it isn't necessary to go to instances from home to find the evidence of some of the most brutal that could be conceived in the minds of depraved human beings. Up in Iron county a few weeks ago a gang of two-legged brutes attacked a helpless woman, and it appears, from the late reports in regard to the matter, that her husband, or the brute she called husband, was a party to the awful crime. Only a few days ago a dead babe was found under a log in a field not a great distance from Farmington. The authorities found the child's mother, who made a confession, implicating a practicing physician of the town. They are both in jail. A short distance from us and in the last ten or twelve days, as is related in another column of this paper, a woman killed a stepson with a butcher knife. Here are just a few, but all are horrible crimes and they have been committed close to home. People must be mighty low in the scale of moral degeneracy when they commit such crimes as these, and some of the parties implicated have had opportunities that ought to have influenced them to become good members of society. Much is being done to educate the people to better lives, and the work is not lost, but it is evidently lost on some people.

A Legal Fraud.

Is it fair, says the St. Louis Republic, for a member of congress to use his privilege of sending matter through the mail free of charge when

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20 Head of Registered and High Grade Jersey Cows and Bred Heifers.

—together with—

20 head of strictly fancy registered Poland-China Sows and Gilts and a few young Bears ready for service

—also—

3 High Grade, Bred Berkshire Gilts

—at—

Jackson, Mo., December 20, 1912

Don't miss this opportunity to get fine Dairy Stock and Hogs. Sale will take place at Crates & Niemann's livery barn, known as the Hunter Brothers Stable. Dog sale begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.; the cattle sale at 1:30 p.m.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH.

W. F. SCHADE, Jackson, Mo.

campaigning against an opponent who has no such privilege. Is it fair for him to use the money paid in taxes by all the people to secure re-election against the will of a part of the people? It requires no student of ethical culture to answer both of these questions. Everybody knows that it is not fair.

But that is precisely what members of congress regularly do at every election. They put together an address to the voters in their districts, go through the solvent but fraudulent proceedings which go standing as an address made to their fellow-members and when it is printed by the government printer the postoffice becomes the unpaid distributor of private campaign matter.

These considerations alone are sufficient to justify greater restricting of the franking privilege, but Postmaster General Hitchcock comes forward with another reason. In commenting on the postal deficit he shows that it cost the people about \$20,000,000 to carry franked matter in the year ending June 30. Of this about \$3,250,000 was paid to handle political mail and if that expense had not been incurred the deficit would have been turned into a surplus of more than \$1,000,000. He appeals to congress to stop this expense on the ground of economy.

The democrats who will control both branches of congress soon will have a chance to show the statesman above the politician in dealing with this matter. The politician will cling to his privilege and try to make people believe that his distributions of campaign material are inspired by the wish to place useful public documents in the hands of the people. The statesmen will call a spade a spade and wash his hands of a discredited practice.—*St. Louis Republic*.

That "Hunger For Office." There is another surprise for those who thought that the triumph of the democratic party would result in a scramble for office that would not only disgrace the nation but seriously interfere with public business. So far there has been less discussion in the press of the country concerning the filling of important offices than has sometimes occurred when one republican president went out and another came in, leaving the government in control of the same party. Those whose memory runs back over several administrations can recall the unseemly contests that have been made for cabinet positions, but so far there has been nothing of the kind. Some suggestions have been made for the various positions, and that is all.

Of course there are thousands of applications being filed for the subordinate offices and these are being recorded and will all receive attention when the time to fill the offices comes and they will be given to men capable of fulfilling the duties that will fall to them. But the people generally seem to take less interest in the offices than usual and the press pays little attention to the subject.

"The hunger for office" has not appeared in any such extensive form as was predicted. What the people want who made this change of administration is good government.—*St. Joseph Observer*.

PATENTS

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Slate Pencils

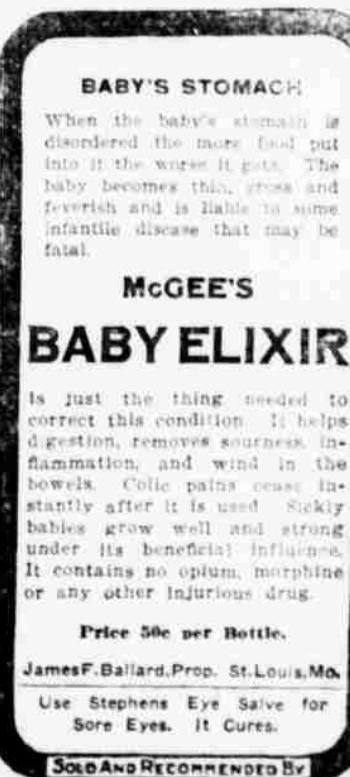
I wonder how many of our school boys and girls know where and how the slate pencils are made. There is only one firm in America engaged in making them, as they can be made and imported from Germany much cheaper than in this country. This firm has its quarry in Pennsylvania. At the quarry, the rough slates of slate rocks are sawn into pieces of suitable size by machinery, and from each piece a machine made especially for the purpose cuts six pencils of standard length—five and one-half inches. The pencils come from the machine rounded, but not sharpened; the work of pointing is done by boys who take three or four at a time and point them at an emery wheel which is revolved rapidly by machinery. The pencils are now ready to be packed for sale, and this is done by putting them in pasteboard boxes which contain one hundred pencils each; these are then packed in wooden cases which contain one hundred of the pasteboard boxes. The school slate is made of the same kind of rock, only a little finer, than that commonly used for roofing. Immense slabs are carefully cut for blackboards, and these are set up in the school houses. The smaller pieces are made into the little hand-slates which nearly every school child in the world where schools are taught, has at some time carried. Unless dropped, or otherwise broken, these slates will do good services as long as a family of children needs a slate. Some of these pencils are much softer than others, and while some are black in color, others are gray.—*The Commoner*.

The chances are that for all the millions they have spent in preparedness, neither Germany nor England wants war, or can afford it. It was reported last week that dog meat at 10 cents a pound was on sale at many of the stalls in Berlin. There is something vitally wrong with a country that eats dog meat. It is a proof of impoverishment which floating navies and drilled armies cannot conceal. There is something vitally wrong, too, with a country that staggers under such a load of poverty as England carries and in the face of which a titled landowning class insists that its broad acres shall not be taxed.

It is often argued that "the best way to avoid war is to be prepared for it," and from the above evidence the correctness can hardly be doubted.

He Laughed Till He Died.

Taylorburg, Ohio.—Abe Skinner, the village pessimist, imagined himself to death from reading BIFF! the Great American Magazine of Fun which is making greater strides than any other magazine before the American public today. It is a magazine that will keep the whole family in a good humor. The staff of BIFF contains the greatest artists, caricaturists, critics and editors on the continent. It is highly illustrated and printed in many colors. It will keep the whole family cheerful the year round. You can afford to spend 50c a year to do this. Send three copies and 50c today to The BIFF Publishing Co., Dayton, Ohio, for one year's subscription.



ALL DEALERS

Man is a pretty wise animal. He has solved many problems, and as a result he is mighty puffed up. But he has his limitations. He can figure out to the fraction of a second when a certain planet will cross the path of another planet.

But he hasn't yet learned why bird-migrate, nor how they fly.

He can put a lot of wheels and wire together and generate a force he calls electricity, and with it he can perform wonders.

But he doesn't know what electricity is, nor why it is.

He can generate power at a given point, convey it hundreds of miles over a slender wire, and with it light a metropolis.

But he has never been able to discover how a lightning bug or a glow worm generates light without heat.

He can build towering buildings, huge cathedrals, giant ships and immense bridges across broad and turbulent streams.

But he cannot make an egg, nor explain why the inside of a watermelon is red, the outside green and the seeds black.

He can navigate the ocean and is beginning to navigate the air.

But he can not stay the ocean's tides nor divert the currents of the air.

Just about the time he gets puffed up so big over his conquests of nature that he is just about to explode with a loud report, old Mother Nature smiles and hands him a jolt that knocks all the wind out of him. He's pretty big, to be sure, but compared with what he has done, what he hasn't done is as a grain of sand to the bulk of the universe.—Will Maupin in *The Commoner*.

Railroad companies spend a great many dollars every fall in burning weeds along the tracks in order to prevent the waste of many more dollars by having snow blockades in the winter. Would it not be a good plan to pick up a few pointers on road making from them? Road making is their business.

Twenty Per Cent Discount

I have 35 Cook Stoves, which is too many, present price \$698 up, and in order to reduce the stock I will give until January 1, or until the stoves are sold, TWENTY PER CENT DISCOUNT on Cook Stoves only. These goods have not been marked up to take the discount, but at the price I have been selling for, which was VERY LOW. Now is the time for you to get a Cook Stove for as near nothing as you ever had. Come and see them whether you want to buy or not—your neighbor may.

We are Headquarters for Nice Furniture

I have just received a Car Load of Rubber Roofing and Builders' Paper at the Lowest possible Price. I will meet any catalog house price—same class of goods.

Fresh Lime and Cement, Sash, Doors, Lumber and Shingles.

C. A. WALKER. **Lutesville, Mo.**

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It has about thirty shareholders, mostly farmers, citizens of this county.

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No stockholder owns more than 10 shares—an average of 5 shares each.

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It has practically the same officers and directors it had when it was organized. It passed through the panic of 1907—one of the worst in the history of the country without stopping payment. It has never lost a dollar on bad loans.

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